

# Recovery Plan Action Status

Plan Name: Chapman's Rhododendron

Plan Status: Final

Plan Date: 08-Sep-83

Lead Agency: USFWS

Lead Office: Panama City Ecological Services Field Office

(850)

769-0552 )

Species	Action Priority #	Action #	Action Description	Action Status	Est. Initiation Date	Est. Completion Date	Responsible Parties	Work Type	Labor Type	Action Comments
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	1	11	Establish cooperative agreements with:	Not Started				Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	1	111	St Joe paper Co	Not Started			Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	At present, cooperative agreements have not been established with the St. Joe Timberland Company (Timberland Company) for the Liberty/Gadsden population (Hosford population). According to A. Johnson (FNAI ecologist), the nature conservancy had an agreement with the Timberland Company in the 1980's.
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	1	112	Camp Blanding	Ongoing Current	FY 2006		USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta, Camp Blanding, Florida National Guard	Management: Habitat Maintenance and Manipulation, Management: Planning	Internal Field Assistance, Internal Technical Assistance	Email in file dates 9/5/2006- states that Camp Blanding is committed to mgt for this plant. Their INRMP is the official document for reporting their commitment to the long term mgt of it. Monitoring data have been collected by Sandra Oxenfider, we have copies.

Species	Action Priority #	Action #	Action Description	Action Status	Est. Initiation Date	Est. Completion Date	Responsible Parties	Work Type	Labor Type	Action Comments
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	1	12	Habitat Protection	Ongoing Current			Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, USFWS Regional Office 4 - Research, St. Joe Paper Company	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	To date, two protected populations have been secured: one population of about 260+ clumps on the St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve (SJBSBP), Gulf County, and one population at Camp Blanding, Clay County composed of 31 clumps. The Hosford population has not been secured; the land was proposed for state acquisition in 2002 as a Florida Forever project (Hosford Chapman's Rhododendron Protection Zone).
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	1	121	Cooperate with owners	Not Started			Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	2	122	Keep them informed	Not Started			Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	1	123	Discourage adverse use of habitat	Not Started			Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta, St. Joe Paper Company, Camp Blanding, Florida National Guard	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	2	124	Prevent federal destruction of habitat	Ongoing Current	FY 2005		USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta, Camp Blanding, Florida National Guard	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	Email in file dates 9/5/2006- states that Camp Blanding is committed to mgt for this plant. Their INRMP is the official document for reporting their commitment to the long term mgt of it.

Species	Action Priority #	Action #	Action Description	Action Status	Est. Initiation Date	Est. Completion Date	Responsible Parties	Work Type	Labor Type	Action Comments
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	2	13	Plant protection	Not Started				Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	2	131	Work with owners	Not Started			Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	2	132	Support laws	Not Started			Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	133	Establish clone bank	Ongoing Current	FY 2006		USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Research: Propagation	Contract	FWS PCFO contracted to Historic Bok Sanctuary for ex situ protection efforts. Report in files July 20,2006 doc efforts to date.

Species	Action Priority #	Action #	Action Description	Action Status	Est. Initiation Date	Est. Completion Date	Responsible Parties	Work Type	Labor Type	Action Comments
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	2	14	Proper management	Ongoing Current			Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	Management with prescribed fire has been implemented for the population at SJBSBP (Gulf Co. Buffer Preserve). This is done with a 3-5 yr interval burn rotation. The Camp Blanding staff cleared the encroaching vegetation at the Rhododendron site in 2005 and in subsequent 2008 and 2009 survey periods; prescribed fire is planned for 2010 (S. Oxenrider, 2010, pers. comm.).  The Hosford population was burned in 2001 by The Nature Conservancy under a grant with the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI); only 10 acres were burned (M. Jenkins, 2010, pers. comm.). The site appeared to have been burned in about 6-8 yr interval rotation. Presently, the Camp Blanding and the Hosford sites are in need of prescribed fire.
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	2	141	Cooperate with owners	Not Started			Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	2	142	Discourage drainage	Not Started			Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	

Species	Action Priority #	Action #	Action Description	Action Status	Est. Initiation Date	Est. Completion Date	Responsible Parties	Work Type	Labor Type	Action Comments
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	2	143	Encourage beneficial plantation management	Not Started			Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	2	144	Encourage preservation of valuable sites	Not Started			Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta, St. Joe Paper Company, Camp Blanding, Florida National Guard	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	15	Monitoring	Ongoing Current	FY 2008		Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, USFWS Regional Office 4 - Research, Camp Blanding, Florida National Guard	Research: Demographic Studies	Labor type not yet selected	Monitoring was initiated in 2007 by the PCFO botanist for the SJBSBP population; the Camp Blanding population has been monitored since 2005. Monitoring has not been implemented for the Hosford population. The Hosford and Gulf populations were surveyed by FNAI in 1996 in 6 plots initially set up by FNAI in 1985.
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	151	Search for new sites	Not Started			Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	152	Map, count all sites	Not Started			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	2	153	Recount every 5 years	Not Started			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	

Species	Action Priority #	Action #	Action Description	Action Status	Est. Initiation Date	Est. Completion Date	Responsible Parties	Work Type	Labor Type	Action Comments
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	2	Strengthen populations at:	Obsolete			Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, USFWS Regional Office 4 - Research, Camp Blanding, Florida National Guard	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	<p>According to the Recovery Plan, 100-200 plants were taken from the Hosford population by growers and planted in Tallahassee, FL for ornamental purposes. The Plan suggested reintroducing cuttings from the collected plants to the wild in the areas where they were taken. Augmentation is not plausible at the moment because we don't have 1) the locations where these plants are currently growing; 2) an agreement with the private landowner to conduct this action; and 3) an assessment of the genetic variability within and among populations.</p> <p>Augmentation was also recommended for the Camp Blanding population if the number of clumps decreases below 20 per acre, and if the site shows a decline of more than 30% of rhododendrons after the initiation of monitoring. At present the population is composed of 31 clumps and seems to have been stable since 2005, thus augmentation is not currently necessary.</p>

Species	Action Priority #	Action #	Action Description	Action Status	Est. Initiation Date	Est. Completion Date	Responsible Parties	Work Type	Labor Type	Action Comments
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	21	Hosford site:	Not Started			St. Joe Paper Company	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	According to the Recovery Plan, 100-200 plants were taken from the Hosford population by growers and planted in Tallahassee, FL for ornamental purposes. The Plan suggested reintroducing cuttings from the collected plants to the wild in the areas where they were taken. Augmentation is not plausible at the moment because we do not have 1) the locations where these plants are currently growing; 2) an agreement with the private landowner to conduct this action; and 3) an assessment of the genetic variability within and among populations.
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	211	Locate cuttings	Not Started			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	212	Rear plants	Not Started			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	213	Replant site	Not Started			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta, St. Joe Paper Company	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	1	22	Girdle oaks at Camp Blanding	Ongoing Current	FY 2005		Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta, Camp Blanding, Florida National Guard	Management: Habitat Maintenance and Manipulation	Internal Field Assistance, Internal Technical Assistance	Doc in file "Nov 2005: survey of CR at Camp Blanding Joint Training Center" reports staff efforts to clear encroaching vegetation at the site.

Species	Action Priority #	Action #	Action Description	Action Status	Est. Initiation Date	Est. Completion Date	Responsible Parties	Work Type	Labor Type	Action Comments
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	23	Detect and solve other management problems	Not Started			Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	2	24	Replant declining sites:	Not Started			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	2	241	Collect seed	Ongoing Current	FY 2006		USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Research: Propagation	Contract	FWS PCFO contracted to Historic Bok Sanctuary for ex situ protection efforts. Report in files July 20,2006 doc efforts to date.
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	2	242	Grow plants	Ongoing Current	FY 2006		USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Research: Propagation	Contract	Bok Tower Garden had no success with root or stem cuttings despite quite successful and widely used commercial protocols (Gensel and Blazich 1985). According to BTG, germination rates were high, but seedlings died around three months of age from unknown causes. Mycorrhizal association has been reported for other rhododendron species, therefore it is plausible that fungal colonization is important in the establishment and survival of Rhododendron m. chapmanii seedlings.
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	2	243	Replant	Not Started			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	3	Establish new populations:	Not Started				Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	

Species	Action Priority #	Action #	Action Description	Action Status	Est. Initiation Date	Est. Completion Date	Responsible Parties	Work Type	Labor Type	Action Comments
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	31	Determine historical range	Partially Complete			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	Historic geographical range represents the entire geographical distribution of a species known to date. Rhododendron m. chapmanii is at present endemic to Florida, and occurs in Gulf, Liberty, Gadsden, and Clay counties.
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	32	Locate suitable sites	Ongoing Not Current			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	<p>FNAI did an aerial survey for R. m. chapmanii in the 1980's at a time when it was blooming; they found numerous potential habitats between the Gulf and Gadsden county populations but without R. m. chapmanii.</p> <p>At present, this action could include a combination of aerial photographs to survey between Gadsden/Liberty counties and Clay County, and species distribution modeling methods to initially determine potential sites, with subsequent validation or inspection of the sites for plants and suitability of habitat.</p>
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	33	Obtains permission for plantings	Not Started			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	

Species	Action Priority #	Action #	Action Description	Action Status	Est. Initiation Date	Est. Completion Date	Responsible Parties	Work Type	Labor Type	Action Comments
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	34	Collect seed	Ongoing Current			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	There are 1,700 seed in refrigerated storage at the Bok Tower Garden (BTG), Lake Wales, FL from collections made in 2007 at the SJBSBP (gulf County).
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	35	Raise and plant	Not Started			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	Bok Tower Garden had no success with root or stem cuttings despite quite successful and widely used commercial protocols (Gensel and Blazich 1985). According to BTG, germination rates were high, but seedlings died around three months of age from unknown causes. Mycorrhizal association has been reported for other rhododendron species (Usuki et al. 2003), therefore it is plausible that fungal colonization is important in the establishment and survival of Rhododendron m. chapmanii seedlings.
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	4	Research	Not Started			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta, USFWS Regional Office 4 - Research	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	

Species	Action Priority #	Action #	Action Description	Action Status	Est. Initiation Date	Est. Completion Date	Responsible Parties	Work Type	Labor Type	Action Comments
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	411	Investigate	Ongoing Current			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	The pollination and mating system is currently being investigated by the PCFO botanist. This research will help determining whether seed are sexually produced and viable, and the importance of self vs. cross pollination. In-situ seed germination and seedling establishment have not been observed in the wild, consequently, if the established individuals are eliminated, they cannot re-establish themselves. The lack of in-situ germination appears to be a limiting factor for seedling recruitment in the wild; therefore, germination studies are needed.
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	412	Determine favorable management for reproduction	Not Started			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	42	Trial plantings	Not Started			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	Experimental planting has not been and should not be initiated until all plausible habitats having R. m. chapmanii are searched.
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	43	Forest management	Ongoing Current			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	For details see Recovery action 1- Proper management.
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	431	Monitor existing management practices	Not Started			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta, St. Joe Paper Company	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Chapman rhododendron (Rhododendron chapmanii)	3	432	Try new management techniques	Not Started			USFWS Regional Office 4 - Atlanta, St. Joe Paper Company	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	